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# The Downer Dial, Number 8, March 24, 1960

Milwaukee-Downer College

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# THE DOWNER DIAL

No. 8

Milwaukee-Downer College

March 24, 1960

## Mesdames

### Butterflies

## Plan Flight To MDC

Co-chairmen of Mothers' Weekend, Barbara Bauer and Corki Parmentier, have chosen "Madame Butterfly" as the theme. The event is scheduled for April 29 and 30th this year.

Our mothers will have a variety of things to see and do; among them are a Faculty Coffee Hour, a chance to attend classes on Friday, April 29, with their daughters, and the spring play, "The Loud Red Patrick", presented April 28, 29, and 30. A reasonably short program is also being planned for Saturday, April 30. Also on Saturday, a special buffet luncheon is planned to honor the mothers. The faculty advisor for this years Mothers' Weekend is Mrs. Zarse.

Mothers will be able to see dorm life first-hand since they will be spending Friday and Saturday nights in the dorms.



## Delegates To Attend SWEA

### Convention April 8-9

Attending the spring convention of the Student Wisconsin Education Association will be Virginia Vance, Bunny Brekelbaum, Charleen Goldberg, Jan Mueller, Rebecca Framke, Joan Tomarkin, and the Downer chapter advisor, Mrs. Anne Berg.

The convention will be held April 8 and 9 at Wisconsin State College, Stevens Point. The theme is "Steps With TEPS" (Teachers Preparation and Professional Standards.) TEPS is a national commission and a part of the National Education Association. The spring convention will center around the correlation between TEPS and student teacher associations.

Presiding over the first main session on Friday night, April 8, will be Carol O' Loughlin, Student WEA president. On Saturday morning, Virginia Vance, Student WEA vice-president, will preside.

The convention will close with a banquet on Saturday afternoon.

## Columbus Boys Choir To Visit MDC Campus

On Monday, April 11, at 8 p.m. the Columbus Boy's Choir of Princeton, New Jersey, will sing at M.D.C. The concert will be preceded by dinner for the young singers in the College Commons. The choir is composed of 28 members, ages nine through thirteen.

This is the annual choir tour of the Columbus Boy's Choir School. They are scheduled to appear in St. Paul on April 10 and Toledo on April 12, between which Downer is a stopping-over point.

## Bunny Brekelbaum Wins Foreign Study Grant



The International Educational Exchange Service of the Department of State recently announced that Miss Bunny Brekelbaum, a senior at MDC, was the winner of an United States Educational Exchange Award. The scholarship was awarded under the terms of the Convention for the Promotion of Inter-American Cultural Relations for the purpose of studying and carrying on research in the field of the Humanities in Columbia, South America. Bunny will leave for Columbia and begin her studies at the end of June, 1960.

"I'm anxiously waiting for June to arrive," commented Bunny. "Not only will I be able to study, but I may have an opportunity to teach English in the Binational School in Bogota."

From twenty to thirty grants are offered annually for one year of graduate study in the other American republics under the International Educational Exchange Program of the Department of State. This program is designed to promote and increase mutual understanding between the people of the United States and those of the other American republics.

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### Mead of the Matter

There is probably no religion in the world about which as much is said by as many people who know as little, as about fundamental Christianity.

As a religious liberal who was brought up in the fundamentalist tradition, I think it is important that educated persons approach this faith with a better-informed and more open-minded view.

Christianity (from the fundamentalist point of view) is based on a belief in salvation through Jesus Christ. The dogmatic evangelism of the fundamentalist can be easily understood, although not necessarily liked, when it is realized that he is convinced that the unsaved are going to spend eternity in Hell.

Salvation comes not by good works, but only through simple acceptance of Christ as one's savior. This experience marks a change in the life of the individual. He is now living for Christ. He, ideally, develops higher standards of behavior for himself, and, at the same time, greater understanding of others. These effects, which are often real, can be explained psychologically, in terms of the security derived from faith, just as the belief in a personal God can be explained in terms of an invention based on psychological needs; but such explanations do not eliminate the possibility of the existence and participation in the experience, of something additional and divine. If a child were to visit an orphanage where the other children had no recollection of parents, when he described the loving father who takes care of him, the others would think, "Ah, we have imagined such things ourselves. You are only inventing the father of your needs." One cannot rationally deny the possibility of an experience which he has not himself enjoyed. The belief of the atheist is also faith.

The "Christian" is often criticized for his uncritical attitude toward the Bible. It must, however, be remembered that to the fundamentalist, the Bible is the one source of

### Comprehensives—A Boon Or a Bother

President Johnson in his Founder's Day address briefly mentioned "comprehensives", examinations given to the graduating senior to test the student in her major field(s) and areas related to it. Since then, discussions, both organized and informal, have flourished on this idea.

Underclassmen generally seem to oppose comprehensives on the grounds that if a student passes all of her courses she should not be tested on the same again. Implied is the fear that one may be ready to graduate, then fail the comprehensive; and, thus be unable to graduate.

If a system of comprehensives were adopted at Downer, the above situation probably would not occur. The examination would primarily cover the student's major field—the subject in which she is presumed to be an expert when she graduates. Also, underclassmen would be aware of senior comprehensives from the time they entered. This would no doubt eliminate an attitude toward classes now prevalent such as: "Well, that course is finished, now I can forget about it."

An example of a comprehen-

sive examination was given by President Johnson. He referred to it as a "midget doctorate" and outlined it as follows:

1. 2½ hour essay on the major field(s).
2. 1½ hour essay on related subjects.
3. 1 hour oral exam before a panel of faculty members.

This is the kind of comprehensive that could be established. It would be necessary to pass it in order to graduate, and the grade achieved would be noted on the student's transcript.

Besides ending undesirable attitudes toward courses completed, the comprehensive would be helpful to those planning to enter graduate school. It would bring four years of education to a culmination; it would also aid the student in understanding the relevance of one course to another and the relation of her field of study to another.

In short, comprehensives are most desirable for the academically excellent liberal arts college; thus implying M.D.C.

Sandy Erickson '60

divine revelation. Although it was written by finite men and from limited perspectives, these men were guided by God. Thus, the Bible is seen as a planned book, not a haphazard collection. Fundamentalists believe that any apparent contradictions with scientific fact are not real contradictions, but are due to the limitations of the understanding of the human, finite mind.

There are problems in the complete acceptance of the Bible as the word of God, that most fundamentalists don't pretend to understand. They proceed with faith and patience, confident that someday they will understand.

Ann Mead '61

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### Entertainment—The Universal Language

He was from India. Tall, dark skinned, and almost too handsome. He was wearing the native dress of his country--- a white robe that reached the ground, and a straight white blouse that made him look even taller. He announced in a confident voice, although with appealing broken English, that he would sing the love song that Indian boys sing to their girls. And he sang it; and he looked at us while he sang it! And even though we couldn't understand a word, it was the most exciting thing ever!

This was just one thrilling moment in an evening spent at the International Institute's monthly social. This is an organization of college students from all parts of the world meeting to have fun and to learn from one another. The evening started with displays

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## Anthropology and Anecdotes Return To MDC

April 7 marks the return of a very interesting, amusing and educational speaker to the Downer campus. Dr. Stephan de Borhegyi of the Milwaukee Public Museum is the speaker, "The Maya Indians of Middle America" is the topic, and Pillsbury Hall, at 8:30 p.m. is April 7 are the date, time, and place.

Dr. de Borhegyi, you will remember, is the "man from the museum" who spoke to us in the fall about Indian wars, horses and museum exhibits, and who related several side-splitting anecdotes. Just recently he made the headlines when he said the he would like to go to Greece to search for the lost arms of the Venus de Milo. He later admitted that the idea was unrealistic, but that it certainly had allure!

Dr. de Borhegyi is a learned man and has the added distinction of marrying an ex-Downer girl, Suzanne Sims. (1944-'46)

Dr. de Borhegyi received his Ph.D. summa cum laude, when he was 25, and that same year he became assistant curator of the Hungarian National Museum.

In 1949, when he was 29, he came to the United States on a Viking Fund Fellowship to study Central and South American ethnology and archaeology. He

met his wife at the University of Arizona when he was working with a survey team to excavate Pueblo Indian ruins. They were married a year after they met.

Upon completing his work in Arizona, Dr. de Borhegyi was invited to join a Carnegie Institution expedition to Guatemala. Mrs. de Borhegyi accompanied her husband on this trip and their stay was extended when Dr. de Borhegyi received a Bollingen Foundation grant to reorganize the Guatemalan National Museum.

In 1951-'52 he continued his studies in anthropology as a Yale fellow and 1953-'54 he worked with, and in, a Mexican community for a research project on social anthropology.

Dr. de Borhegyi claims anthropology as his first love, fencing as his hobby, and feels that he owes his life to a horse. You will know him by his mustache, his affinity for wearing vests, and by his occasional "Hungarian lisp" (some th's sound like s's).

To assure yourselves of this interesting evening, sponsored jointly by the college and the Milwaukee Alumnae Chapter, all you need to do is put a star on your calendar on April 7 and plan on attending.

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As provided in the terms of the Convention, one or more grantees from the United States are chosen by the host government of each participating country from a panel presented by the United States Government. The United States Government pays travel costs, and the host governments provide a maintenance allowance. The Convention also provides opportunities for foreign nationals to study in American colleges and universities.

The countries participating in this program are Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Columbia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, the United States and Venezuela.

## Creative Educator Joins MDC Faculty

Coming to MDC from Temple University in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, is James W. Skelton. He is joining the faculty as an associate professor of Education and as Chairman of the Education Department.

Mr. Skelton's educational background is interesting and most liberal. Undergraduate work in the Classics and a B.S. a M.A. in English, and a Ph.D. in Education were received by him from Ohio State University (and there's more) He also received a LL.B. at Rutgers University.

A variety of experiences has colored Mr. Skelton's career. He's had four years of teaching experience on the secondary level in Batavia, Ohio. During World War II he served in the Navy in the Pacific, working in personel and administration. In the area of college teaching, he has a year's experience at the State University of New York in Albany, twelve years at Temple University, and one year at the University of Delaware as a visiting professor on leave of absence from Temple University.

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**James W. Skelton  
Becomes Chm. of  
Education  
Dept.**

"A whisper of what's to come" indicates that Mr. Skelton has many unique and challenging ideas on the subject of education. He will be offering a personally designed course which this reporter finds very difficult to adequately describe. It deals with the art of teaching on a practical and creative problem solving basis. In addition, his specialty fields are Secondary Education, Educational Philosophy, and various cultural aspects of the educational field.

Prominent in his field, Mr. Skelton has had numerous articles published in professional journals and has published five books, one of which is entitled Educational Philosophy and Democratic Faith.

MDC cordially welcomes Mr. Skelton and eagerly anticipates his challenging ideas.

Jane Hoar '61

## Music, Men, And MDC

Music and men will fill the halls of MDC on Wednesday, April 6. The Men's Glee Club from the University of Wisconsin-Madison will perform in a concert at 8:15 p.m. in Merrill Hall.

This concert is part of the Glee Club's spring tour which takes them through southern Wisconsin. Their repertoire will consist of songs of a sacred type to many lively show tunes.

Because of a secret nest egg in the Social Committee budget, the concert will be admission free to Downer students. Tickets will be available for sale to the general public.

After the concert there will be a party for the Glee Club members and Downer girls in Holton parlor.

## R.A.C. Previews Coming Events

"Mr. Bader, speaking as a Unitarian, I'd like to know.." One of Downer's more zealous patriots challenged the representative of the Jewish faith at last fall's Religious Activities Committee's panel on "the Significance of Jesus".

"Welcome to the family," replied Mr. Alfred Bader, deflating her before she could land her smashing blow.

Snappy comebacks like this one are an absolute necessity at any of the programs sponsored by the Religious Activities Committee. Throughout past years this group has, in an objective fashion, managed to produce stimulating discussions on all manner of controversial topics.

Have you ever asked a question of a friend and been answered with a sharp rap on the head? This would surely be an after-effect of the Zen Temple visit which the group sponsored this year. Its activities range from field trips to assemblies, to panels, chapels, Christmas vespers and more field trips. In addition to the Zen Temple, students have visited the Bahi Temple and Franciscan convent.

of native cultures by the amateur but spirited members---a song from the Philippines, a mouth organ solo from Africa, a calypso dance from Jamaica (accompanied by bongos), folk songs and ballads from Israel, and, of course, the wonderful song from India. Being unprofessional, they had an amazing quality of true folk music and sincerity, rightly representing their country. Simple entertainment--"And now Nhukarma from Africa will sing a song for you"--but so wonderful.

When it was over, the room suddenly sprang. Chairs were shoved and stacked; introductions appeared from all sides; a pile of spritely, gayly-worded records were put on and dancing began. I couldn't help laughing because the very air in the room was laughing. So many different kinds of dancers--up and downers, and back and forthers, smooth rhythmic dancers, and energetic bouncy dancers. So many kinds of couples--little with big, big

What will the RAC do next? People who don't know what store front churches are will be interested in R.A.C.'s assembly program on April 26, featuring a Chicago speaker.

Police Captain Wolke of the Youth Aid Bureau will be joining forces with Father Gutmann of the Neighborhood House on March 23, at 7:30 p.m., for a panel on under-privileged areas.

Seniors or any other candidates for marriage will want to attend the panel discussion on this subject to be scheduled in April. It is hoped that the main speaker will be Monseigneur Halloran of the Cana Foundation whose work in marriage counseling at Wauwatosa has earned much praise. Other speakers will present a social worker's view of marriage, a doctor's, and perhaps a sociologist's.

The Religious Activities Committee has many interesting and varied activities coming up so keep your eyes and ears open for these future attractions and if there's something you're curious about this is the group to bring it to.

with big, little with little, tall with short, light with dark, East with West, Switzerland with France, Germany with Jordan, China with America---everybody dancing and everybody laughing. Conversation hit on everything from trucks to governments, and in as many different languages. Such spirit and joy!

Judy King '63

